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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/827,771	04/06/2001	Gary Seim	1275.10US01	7354
7590		12/23/2003	EXAMINER	
Mark A. Hollingsworth		ROBINSON, DANIEL LEON		
CRAWFORD PLLC		ART UNIT		
1270 Northland Drive,		PAPER NUMBER		
Suite 390		3742		
Mendota Heights, MN 55120		DATE MAILED: 12/23/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/872,771

Applicant(s)

WEIRICH ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel I. Robinson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5-12, 16-23 and 27-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 13-15 and 24-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 10-12, 21-23 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Levine et al.(U.S.Pat.6,058,328). Levine discloses a method of using implantable stimulation device having means for operating in a pre-emptive pacing mode to prevent tachyarrhythmias that shows all the features of the claimed invention figs. 2-4, and 7-8, and the abstract.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5-8, 16-19 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levine in view of Shelton(U.S.Pat.5,836,989). Levine does not explicitly show a re-start based on an elapsed first or second time duration time. Shelton discloses a method and apparatus for controlling an implantable medical device in a time-dependent manner that shows explicitly, figs.1-4, cols. 9-11 and the abstract, the re-enablement of a therapy base on any given time duration combination. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

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the claimed invention to use the time dependence of therapy so as to permit their comparison and evaluation in a patient.

Claims 9, 20 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Levine in view of Bennet et al.(U.S.Pat.5,213,098). Levine does not explicitly show a manual induced signal. Bennet discloses a post-extrasystolic potentiation stimulation with sensor feedback that shows a manually adjustable PESP, fig.7 cols.17-20. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the claimed invention to use a manual induced signal as taught by Bennet with the device of Levine so an over ride is provided in the automated system.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 13-15 and 24-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sholder, Bornzin, Sholder'895, and Armstrong are cited to show structure and methods similar to the claimed invention.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel I. Robinson whose telephone number is 703 306-9043.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 5:30am-2:30pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 872-9302.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 308-0861.

dlr

**DANIEL ROBINSON
PATENT EXAMINER**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dl Robinson', written over the printed name and title.